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Message Text

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70
ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 SS-15 NSC-10 L-03 DOTE-00

RSR-01 /086 W
---------- 080231
P R 302000 Z MAY 73
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5426
INFO USMISSION BERLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E. O. 11652: N/ A
TAGS: PGOV, ETRN, ETRD, WB, GE, GW, US, UK, FR
SUBJECT: CIVAIR- AIRLIFT OF US LIVESTOCK TO GDR

REF: A. STATE 87333; B. BERLIN 788 (NOTAL)

1. PROPOSED SEABOARD AIRLIFT OF PIG BREEDING STOCK TO SCHOENFIELD WAS DISCUSSED WITH BRITISH AND FRENCH HERE. ALTHOUGH THE FRENCH HAVE NO OBJECTIONS, THE BRITISH EXPRESSED A STRONG PREFERENCE THAT THE LIVESTOCK BE SHIPPED TO LEIPZIG, OR TO SOME GDR CITY OTHER THAN EAST BERLIN. THEY NOTED THAT A FLIGHT BY A PROMINENT US FLAG CARRIER WOULD GET SUBSTANTIAL PUBLICITY IN THE EAST GERMAN PRESS AND ESTABLISH AN ALLIED PRESENCE AT SCHOENFELD WHICH WOULD BE UNDESIRABLE. IT WOULD ALSO REPRESENT A BREAK IN THE ALLIED AND FRG OPPOSITION TO SCHOENEFELD' S DEVELOPMENT AS AN INTERNATIONAL AIR CENTER. BY THE SAME TOKEN, IT UNDERMINES THE STATUS OF WEST BERLIN AIRPORTS AND WOULD BE REGARDED IN AN UNFAVORABLE LIGHT BY THE WEST BERLINERS AND -- THEY BELIEVE -- THE FRG. NEVERTHELESS, IF SEABOARD WOULD LOSE THE CONTRACT BY NOT, RPT NOT BEING ABLE TO DELIVER THE LIVESTOCK TO SCHOENFELD, THE BRITISH WOULD RELUNCTANTLY CONCUR IN THE FLIGHT.
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2. SEABOARD' S FRANKFURT OFFICE HAS TOLD US THAT ALL RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE FLIGHTS WAS RECENTLY TRANSFERRED TO THEIR NEW YORK OFFICE (MR. WENDELL STEVENS) AND THE EMBASSY DOES NOT KNOW AT THIS POINT WHETHER THE FLIGHTS ARE STILL DESIRED BY INTERFLUG AND WHAT WERE THE RESULTS OF SEABOARD' S SUGGESTION TO INTERFLUG THAT THE PIGS BE FLOWN TO LEIPZIG. THE EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE THE DEPT' S CONTACTING SEABOARD IN NEW YORK OR WASHINGTON AND FINDING OUT THE PRESENT STATUS OF THE PROPOSED FLIGHTS, AND WHETHER INTERFLUG IS INSISTING ON DELIVERY AT SCHOENFELD.
CASH

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a
*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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Message Attributes

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